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Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 IO-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SAM-01

PM-03 SP-02 L-01 INR-05 EB-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-06

ACDA-10 OMB-01 /067 W
---------- 123115
P R 211035Z MAY 75
FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3507
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 520

LIMDIS

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, UN, MZ, RH
SUBJECT: RHODESIAN SANCTIONS: UN OFFSET FUND FOR MOZAMBIQUE

REF: (A) LOURENCO MARQUES 501; (B) LONDON 7310;
(C) PRETORIA 1701

1. WHILE WE ARE NOT AWARE OF STATUS OF UN ACTION ON SETTING
UP REFERENCED OFFSET FUND AS RESULT OF COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE
AND BRITISH APPROACH, WE ASSUME THIS WILL BE DONE SOON AFTER
JUNE 25 WHEN MOZAMBIQUE INTENDS TO APPLY SANCTIONS BY CUTTING
OFF LOURENCO MARQUES AND BEIRA RAIL LINES (TO RHODESIA).
UK GOVT. HAS ALREADY ANNOUNCED IT WILL CONTRIBUTE AND WE HAVE
INDICATIONS THAT BRITISH EXPECT CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OTHER
COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES AS WELL AS FROM U.S. AND POSSIBLY
JAPAN (REF A).
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WM LOCAL NEWSPAPER CARRIED REUTERS ITEM DATELINED LONDON,
MAY 18, SAYING FOREIGN SECRETARY CALLAGHAN HAD STATED SWEDEN,
AS WELL AS OTHER COUNTRIES, HAD PROMISED TO JOIN WITH GREAT
BRITAIN IN HELPING MOZAMBIQUE, IF THAT COUNTRY APPLIED SANCTIONS
TO RHODESIA. CALLAGHAN REPORTEDLY REFERRED TO SWEDISH CON-
TRIBUTION AS "SUBSTANTIAL".

3. IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT THUS FAR ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE
MENTION OF ASSISTANCE TO MOZAMDIQUE TO OFFSET THE ECONOMIC
DAMAGE WHICH WOULD BE CAUSED BY ITS APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS
AGAINST RHODESIA HAS BEEN IN CONTEXT OF COMMONWEALTH AND
WESTERN COUNTRIES. NO MENTION HAS BEEN MADE OF SOVIET BLOC
OR CHINESE CONTRIBUTION. IN SHORT, WEST HAS THE INITIATIVE.

4. IT STRIKES US AS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THAT USG BE
IDENTIFIED WITH EFFORT TO APPLY PRESSURES TO RHODESIA IN
FINAL EFFORT TO ARRIVE AT PEACEFUL SOLUTION. THERE APPEARS TO
BE TWO GOOD OPTIONS FOR ACHIEVING THIS GOAL, BOTH DEPENDING
ON CONGRESSIONAL ACTION: (A) REPEAL OF BYRD AMENDMENT AND
(B) U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO UN OFFSET FUND. FOR OPTION A, TIMING
IS VERY IMPORTANT. WITH THE PROSPECT THAT SANCTIONS WILL BE
APPLIED IMMEDIATELY AFTER MOZAMBIQUE'S INDEPENDENCE ON
JUNE 25, IT MAY BE EASIER TO OBTAIN NECESSARY MAJORITY IN
CONGRESS TO REPEAL BYRD AMENDMENT. AS INDICATED REF. C, SOUTH
AFRICAN RAILROAD SYSTEM IS ALREADY OPERATING AT NEAR CAPACITY
AND WOULD BE UNABLE TO TAKE MUCH ABDITIONAL LOAD FROM RHODESIA,
AND PARTICULARLY CHROME WHOSE PRESENT OUTLET FOR SOUTH AFRICA
IS LOURENCO MARQUES--AN OUTLET ALREADY SUFFERING FROM SERIOUS
CAPACITY PROBLEMS. IT COULD THEN BE ARGUED THAO BYRD AMENDMENT
WOULD BE MEANINGLESS AFTER SANCTIONS ARE APPLIED AND THAT WE
MIGHT AS WELL GET CREDIT NOW. UNDER OPTION B, WE WOULD ALS
CLEARLY ASSOCIATE OURSELVES WITH THE WEST'S EFFORT TO REACH
A PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN RHODESIA BUT IT MAY BE DIFFICULT TO
OBTAIN NECESSARY APPROPRIATIONS FROM CONGRESS. BOTH OPTIONS
WOULD HAVE CONSIDERABLE PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT ON RHODESIA AND
PROVIDE STRONG PROOF OF OUR INTENTIONS WITH REGARD TO MAJORITY
RULE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA TO OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES. IT WOULD
ALSO GREATLY IMPROVE OUR CHANCES OF FRUITFUL RELATIONS WITH
NEW GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE.

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TM FOR ABOVE REASONS, IT WOULD APPEAR TO BE IN U.S. INTERESTS
TO MAKE EARLY DECISION ON ABOVE OPTIONS. INFO ADDRESSEES MAY
WISH COMMENT.
WALKER

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NNN

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